

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:
 Urquhart-Dykes & Lord LLP
 Attn. Atkinson, Jonathan D.M.
 Tower North Central, Merrion Way
 Leeds LS2 8PA
 UNITED KINGDOM

RECEIVED
 20 MAY 2005
 URQUHART-DYKES &
 LEEDS

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
 THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND
 THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
 SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JDMA/P203260WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004269	International filing date (day/month/year) 08/10/2004
Applicant STORSACK UK LTD	

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.
3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

- ☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
- ☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. Reminders


Shortly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the International application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 80bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.

Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.

In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.

See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Maria Zinburgova
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Form PCT/ISA/220 (January 2004)

(See notes on accompanying sheet)

NOTES TO FORM PCT/ISA/220

These Notes are intended to give the basic instructions concerning the filing of amendments under article 19. The Notes are based on the requirements of the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Regulations and the Administrative Instructions under that Treaty. In case of discrepancy between these Notes and those requirements, the latter are applicable. For more detailed information, see also the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, a publication of WIPO.

In these Notes, "Article", "Rule", and "Section" refer to the provisions of the PCT, the PCT Regulations and the PCT Administrative Instructions, respectively.

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 19

The applicant has, after having received the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority, one opportunity to amend the claims of the international application. It should however be emphasized that, since all parts of the international application (claims, description and drawings) may be amended during the international preliminary examination procedure, there is usually no need to file amendments of the claims under Article 19 except where, e.g. the applicant wants the latter to be published for the purposes of provisional protection or has another reason for amending the claims before international publication. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that provisional protection is available in some States only (see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Annexes B1 and B2).

The attention of the applicant is drawn to the fact that amendments to the claims under Article 19 are not allowed where the International Searching Authority has declared, under Article 17(2), that no international search report would be established (see *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume I/A, paragraph 296).

What parts of the international application may be amended?

Under Article 19, only the claims may be amended.

During the international phase, the claims may also be amended (or further amended) under Article 34 before the International Preliminary Examining Authority. The description and drawings may only be amended under Article 34 before the International Examining Authority.

Upon entry into the national phase, all parts of the international application may be amended under Article 28 or, where applicable, Article 41.

When?

Within 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report or 16 months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later. It should be noted, however, that the amendments will be considered as having been received on time if they are received by the International Bureau after the expiration of the applicable time limit but before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication (Rule 46.1).

Where not to file the amendments?

The amendments may only be filed with the International Bureau and not with the receiving Office or the International Searching Authority (Rule 46.2).

Where a demand for international preliminary examination has been/is filed, see below.

How?

Either by cancelling one or more entire claims, by adding one or more new claims or by amending the text of one or more of the claims as filed.

A replacement sheet must be submitted for each sheet of the claims which, on account of an amendment or amendments, differs from the sheet originally filed.

All the claims appearing on a replacement sheet must be numbered in Arabic numerals. Where a claim is cancelled, no renumbering of the other claims is required. In all cases where claims are renumbered, they must be renumbered consecutively (Administrative Instructions, Section 205(b)).

The amendments must be made in the language in which the international application is to be published.

What documents must/may accompany the amendments?

Letter (Section 205(b)):

The amendments must be submitted with a letter.

The letter will not be published with the international application and the amended claims. It should not be confused with the "Statement under Article 19(1)" (see below, under "Statement under Article 19(1)").

The letter must be in English or French, at the choice of the applicant. However, if the language of the international application is English, the letter must be in English; if the language of the international application is French, the letter must be in French.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JDMA/P203260WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004269	International filing date (day/month/year) 08/10/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 08/10/2003
Applicant STORSACK UK LTD		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 6 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 2

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☒ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

10/575196

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004269

'AP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 APR 2006'

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-14

a sleeve or bag formed by one or more regions of fibre web for transporting sheet materials, in which said regions are fastened together by means of seams, wherein a filler is provided in the seams between the overlapping layers of the fabric web.

2. claims: 15-19

a fibre web for transporting sheet materials comprising a base layer of fabric web having three regions of which two of them are protective regions, wherein the first and second protective regions include a second layer formed of plastic material bonded to the base layer, and wherein the base layer includes further sealing regions for covering the remaining exposed sides of the sheet material.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004269

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B65D88/16 B65D33/02 B65D65/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 91 15 015 U (DEUTER SPORT UND LEDER) 26 March 1992 (1992-03-26) the whole document	1-5, 10, 12
X	DE 92 15 563 U (ORTWIN M. ZEISSIG) 28 January 1993 (1993-01-28) the whole document	1-6, 12-14
X	FR 2 437 925 A (EST IMPRIMERIE PAPETERIE) 30 April 1980 (1980-04-30) the whole document	1-5, 12, 13
X	FR 1 079 736 A (COMPTOIR LINIER) 2 December 1954 (1954-12-02) the whole document	1-5
	----- -/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

18.05.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patenilaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Visentin, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004269

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 328 269 A (WOLFF & CO. KOMMANDIT-GESELLSCHAFT AUF AKTIEN; EMIL CZAPEK; RICHARD WE) 22 April 1930 (1930-04-22) the whole document	15-19
A	US 1 716 403 A (WHITE ARTHUR C) 11 June 1929 (1929-06-11) the whole document	15-19
A	GB 2 294 902 A (* HERMANN NAWROT GMBH SPEZIALPAPIER-UND FOLIENFABRIK) 15 May 1996 (1996-05-15) page 2, lines 10-13 page 4, lines 10-13; claim 1	15-19
A	DE 74 35 744 U (HOLTZ H) 3 April 1975 (1975-04-03) claims 1,3; figures 1,3	15

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/004269

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 9115015	U	26-03-1992	DE 9115015 U1	26-03-1992
DE 9215563	U	28-01-1993	DE 9215563 U1	28-01-1993
FR 2437925	A	30-04-1980	FR 2437925 A3	30-04-1980
			DE 2904210 A1	17-04-1980
			DE 7903046 U1	06-03-1980
FR 1079736	A	02-12-1954	NONE	
GB 328269	A	22-04-1930	NONE	
US 1716403	A	11-06-1929	NONE	
GB 2294902	A	15-05-1996	DE 9418046 U1	22-12-1994
			FR 2724341 A1	15-03-1996
DE 7435744	U	03-04-1975	NONE	

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004269

International filing date (day/month/year)
08.10.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
08.10.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B65D88/16, B65D33/02, B65D65/02

Applicant
STORSACK UK LTD

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☒ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 68.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office
D-80298 Munich
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized Officer

Visentin, M

Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2614



007/00 2000 10.02 PAX 0113 243 0440 UDL LEEDS 7 0000000 0000/000

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004269

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004269

Box No. II Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not been furnished:

- ☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).
☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.
3. ☐ The International Searching Authority has not been able to consider the validity of the priority claim because a copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed was not available to the International Searching Authority at the time that the search was conducted (Rule 17.1). This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.
4. Additional observations, if necessary:

Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. ☒ In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees, the applicant has:

- ☒ paid additional fees.
☐ paid additional fees under protest.
☐ not paid additional fees.

2. ☐ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite the applicant to pay additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is

- ☐ complied with
☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

see separate sheet

4. Consequently, this report has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:

- ☒ all parts.
☐ the parts relating to claims Nos.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004269

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43b/s.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, Inventive step or
Industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	15
	No: Claims	1,2
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	15-19
	No: Claims	3-14
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations**see separate sheet**

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/004269

Re Item IV.

1. There are in the present application three independent claims, 1, 2 and 15 respectively.
2. The claims appear to define the two following different inventions:

I: Claims 1-14 directed to: a sleeve or bag formed by one or more regions of fibre web for transporting sheet materials, in which said regions are fastened together by means of seams, wherein a filler is provided in the seams between the overlapping layers of the fabric web.

II: Claims 15-19 directed to: a fibre web for transporting sheet materials comprising a base layer of fabric web having three regions of which two of them are protective regions, wherein the first and second protective regions include a second layer formed of plastic material bonded to the base layer, and wherein the base layer includes further sealing regions for covering the remaining exposed sides of the sheet material.

This Authority considers that the two above inventions are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept, as required by Rule 13.1 PCT.

The reasons for raising the above objection of lack of unity of inventions are as follows.

- 2.1 The present inventions aim to solve the following problems.

Invention I: providing a fibre web or a sleeve which provides a particular protection to the edges of the transported sheet material;

The feature which solve this problem is the specific form of the seams used to join together the different regions of the web which incorporate a filler.

Invention II: providing a fibre web which provides a particular protection to the largest faces of the sheet material.

The features which solves this problem are the second layer formed of plastic material bonded to the base layer and the further sealing regions.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/004269

The two inventions solve two different problems by means of different potentially special technical features, the only common feature being a fibre web.

- 2.2 In conclusion, the groups of claims are not linked by common or corresponding special technical features and define two different inventions not linked by a single general inventive concept.

The application, hence, does not appear as meeting the requirements of unity of invention as defined in Rules 13.1 and 13.2 PCT.

Re Item V.

1. The following documents are referred to in this communication:

D1: DE-U-91 15 015

D2: DE-U-92 15 563

D3: FR-A-2 437 925

D4: FR-A-1 079 736

- 2 Every one of the cited documents is considered to represent a relevant state of the art for the matter defined in both claims 1 and 2, respectively. D1 to D4 define a fibre web having different regions jointed by seams incorporating a filler between the overlapping layers, according to the features of independent claim 1 and 2. In particular figure 1 of D4 shows a fibre web in form of a sleeve.
2. The subject-matter of claims 1 and 2, therefore, does not satisfy the criterion set forth in Article 33(2) PCT because it is not new in respect of prior art as defined in the regulations (Rule 64(1)-(3) PCT).
3. With respect to the dependent claims 3-14 it is observed that they define features which are either well known from the available prior art, or which appear to come well within the capabilities of the person skilled in the art.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/004269

4. Document GB-A-328 269 can be considered as the closest prior art for the matter defined in independent claim 15. The fibre web adapted for transporting sheet materials defined in claim 15 differs from the disclosed product in that it comprises two protective regions including a bonded plastic layer, said two region being separated by a third region, further sealing regions adjacent the protective regions being included in order to cover by folding the remaining exposed sides of the protected sheet material.
- 4.1 The available prior arts fails to give any indication leading to the arrangement suggested by the above combination of features of the invention.
5. The subject-matter of claim 15, therefore, satisfies the criterion set forth in Article 33(3) PCT because it can be considered as involving an inventive step (Rule 65(1)(2) PCT).

AMENDED CLAIMS

[Received by the International Bureau on 11 July 2005 (11.07.05):
original claims 1 to 14 deleted; original claims 15 to 19 renumbered as claims 1 to 5; (1 page)]

1. A fibre web adapted for transporting sheet materials, wherein the fibre web comprises a base layer of woven fibre having three regions in which: a first protective region is adapted to cover one of the two largest faces of the sheet material, a second protective region is adapted to cover the other of the largest faces of the sheet material, and a third region separating the first and second regions and joined to both is adapted to cover a face separating the two largest faces of the sheet material, wherein at least the first and second protective regions include a second layer formed of plastics material bonded to the base layer, and wherein the base layer includes one or more further sealing regions adjacent to the first and or second protective regions, the or each sealing region being adapted to cover one or more of the remaining exposed sides of the sheet material when suitably folded.
2. A fibre web as claimed in claim 1, wherein the or each sealing region is provided with releasable fastening means to enable the or each sealing region to be fastened releasable to a corresponding surface of the base layer when the fibre web is suitably folded.
3. A fibre web as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the plastics material is corrugated polypropylene.
4. A fibre web as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the base layer is formed from woven polypropylene.
5. A fibre web as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the base layer is coated on both sides with polypropylene.